

**Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice
Dempsey Room
Grand Tower Building – Lansing, MI
January 25, 2008 – 9:00 am
Draft Minutes**

Present:

Joan Doughty
Amy Good
Jeffrey Fink
Jeriel Heard
Joe Underwood
Clarence Williams
Judge William Ervin
Chiquita McKenzie-Bennett
Kenyatta Stephens
Joey Latterman
Leonard Dixon

Absent:

Arthur Carter
Barbara Levin-Bergman
Carol Harton
Brian Philson
Justice Elizabeth Weaver
Diane Giddings

Anita Lacy
Beatriz Therton

Staff Present:

Dawn Campbell
Lawana Jarrett
Vita Pizaña
Jeanette Scroggins
Janie Soliz
Shirley Winston

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 am by Jeriel Heard. Vita Pizaña took roll call. Jeriel welcomed newest members Kenyatta Stephens, COO of Black Family Development Inc., and Leonard Dixon, Executive Director of Wayne County Juvenile Detention Facility, both from Detroit.

Approval of the Agenda and Minutes

The January 25 agenda was approved. The minutes from the November 15th and December 7th meetings were approved with a correction noted by Judge William Ervin that his title be changed to reflect “Judge” instead of “Justice”.

Bureau of Juvenile Justice (BJJ) Update

Lawana gave an update on Maxey Training School. She indicated that plans for downsizing will be completed by May of 2008. Forty-six (46) youth are waiting to be moved out within a few months. The operating capacity is down to 80. Jeriel asked to be updated regarding the placements and services being provided by those facilities receiving those youth.

Old Business

- **GENDER SPECIFIC**

Lawana reported that the Gender Services ITB was posted on the DHS website and four agencies submitted Proposals for funding, of which 2 will be selected. Each program will receive \$75,000 for the 1st year and will be decreased by 25% the 2nd and 3rd year but will be required to do a local match to maintain \$75,000.

Michigan Female Responsive Task Force requested \$5,000 to do two statewide trainings. The first training will be held in Grayling Michigan with a tentative date of April 30, 2008. There will be no charge to participants.

Lawana announced that 2008 was the 10th year that Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) was being implemented in Michigan. BJJ is requesting \$6,000 to sponsor a statewide BARJ training conference. This conference would accommodate up to 175 participants.

Jeanette stated that Gender Specific needs to be directed to the Special Emphasis Committee for approval. BARJ should go to the entire Committee.

Jeriel moved that the Committee approve \$6,000 for the BARJ conference. Leonard Dixon seconded the motion. Chiquita McKenzie-Bennett asked for clarification on BARJ conference fees/charges for participants. Lawana stated it would be free.

1 abstention - Kenyatta Stephens. Motion adopted by Committee.

- **MICHIGAN GUIDE TO COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS GOVERNING THE PLACEMENT OF JUVENILES IN SECURE FACILITIES**

Jeanette updated the group on the guide Michigan Guide to Compliance with Laws Governing the Placement of Juveniles in Secure Facilities. She requested approval of the guide with noted modifications on page 12 regarding the use of the terms automatic vs. traditional waivers. The change approved during the executive committee conference call of December 7th was to change the wording to include prosecutorial waivers. Jeriel suggested that due to the grammatical errors, and additional issues regarding detention and waivers raised by Jeffrey Fink, the guide should be reviewed with all noted changes and approved at the next meeting in March. Jeanette will e-mail the guide with noted modifications to members prior to the meeting. Jeanette will verify that federal law versus state law are correctly compared. (pg.12)

New Business

- TITLE II AND TITLE V TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RFP (special consultant services for performance measures, evaluation, governor's report and gender specific services)

Dawn Campbell and Janie Soliz reported on the ITB for program development, evaluation, and technical assistance to the Title II and Title V grantees. They are working on a 5 year bid for \$1.1M which will provide services to all the grantees except DMC and jail removal. The technical assistance will include performance measures and consultation at various stages of the grant. The ITB is now being reviewed by DMB and it could take up to 5 months before the process is completed and the award is made.

Jeanette added that the delay in this ITB is actually more like a year since staff met with Purchasing Services in early Spring last year. She stated the dire need to have performance measures submitted to OJJDP. Without an approved contractor to aggregate the data and submit a final report, funding will be in jeopardy of being lost or frozen until a report is submitted. There is also a chance that the state will be out of compliance in terms of their charge to distribute the funding. Jeanette shared that DHS has lifted spending restrictions for the committee, FGU staff and contracts; however, there is still approximately \$5 million left to spend from the 2005, 2006 and 2007 awards. The delays and slow processing/approval of contracts continue to hamper staff's ability to provide grants to communities and local units of government. She referred the committee to the letter in their packets from Larry Fiedler, OJJDP, stating the importance of getting contracts out and warning against further delays in spending.

Jeriel stated that he met with Justice Weaver regarding concerns in spending. He stated that Justice Weaver had shared the committee's concern regarding contract delays and slow spending with DHS Deputy Director, Stanley Stewart. Jeriel stated that at this point it is imperative that the situation be corrected and that he invited the committee (whoever was interested) to join him in a meeting with Director Ahmad to correct the situation. He asked Jeanette to schedule a meeting with Director Ahmad and the committee. Joey Latterman asked what was happening with the money (since it was not being spent). Jeriel responded that it was probably in an account collecting interest. He explained that the federal dollars can not be drawn down until the state spends money first, (and the Feds need to see that it is spent), and then reimburse the state. Jeffrey Fink asked to be included in meeting. Committee members had varying suggestions as to how these concerns could be resolved. The suggestions varied from composing a letter to the Governor asking for another fiduciary besides DHS, to going to the press with concerns about money not being spent. Jeanette will request a meeting with

Director Ahmad, put an agenda together, and provide talking points for the meeting.

- BUDGET UPDATE

Jeanette reported no changes in the budget since last meeting in December.

The committee broke for lunch and subcommittee meetings.

DMC/Crime Analysis Update

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 pm. Public Policy Associates provided a PowerPoint presentation to the committee of the Draft Crime Analysis Report. Jeanette stated importance of reviewing the report sent by e-mail by the next scheduled meeting. She stated that the crime analysis is a requirement for submission of the Title II application. The application is due March 30th.

Future Dates for 2008 MCJJ meetings

All future meeting dates except the December 5th date were accepted. The December date was changed to December 12, 2008.

Committee member Jeff Fink re-introduced the letter from the Michigan Female Responsive Task Force requesting funding for two trainings. At this time, Judge Ervin made a motion for the Committee to approve the request for \$5,000 from the Michigan Female Responsive Task Force. Amy Good seconded the motion with the recommendation that the conference include topics such as cutting, self mutilation and sex trafficking, as these seem to be prevalent issues within the female juvenile population. All Committee members were in favor and the motion was adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

